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# PENNSYLVANIA AND UNIVERSAL MERCURY: THE ADVERTISER.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 1775.

AFFECTION AND INTEREST DICTATE THE UNION.

THE PRINTERS beg leave to acquaint their Subscribers and the Public, that the TYPES with which THIS Paper is printed are of AMERICAN manufacture, and should it by this means fail of giving such entire satisfaction to the judicious and accurate eye, they hope every patriotic allowance will be made in its favour, and that an attempt to introduce so valuable an art into these colonies, will meet with an indulgent countenance from every lover of his country.-----We are sensible, that in point of elegance, they are somewhat inferior to those imported from England, but we flatter ourselves that the rustic manufactures of America will prove more grateful to the patriot eye, than the more finished productions of Europe, especially when we consider that whilst you tolerate the unpolished figure of the first attempt, the work will be growing to perfection by the experience of the ingenious artist, who has furnished us with this specimen of his skill, and we hope the paper will not prove less acceptable to our readers, for giving him this encouragement.

We beg leave further to observe, that as one of the eastern mails is now dispatched from Boston, in such time as to arrive here on Thursday (instead of Saturday as formerly) we have judg'd it expedient to change our day of publication to Friday, by which alteration we expect to have an opportunity of furnishing the most early intelligence from that interesting quarter. We trust this will be a sufficient apology for making that only deviation from the assurances given the public in our proposals, nor will any other alteration be admitted unless manifestly tending to the advantage and entertainment of our Subscribers.----We return thanks to those gentlemen in this and the neighbouring provinces, who have kindly countenanced our intentions, and obligingly assisted us by taking in subscriptions, &c. for the PENNSYLVANIA MERCURY and UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER, and would beg them still to continue such their friendly offices, and those who have not yet sent us their lists of subscribers names will please to transmit them and the Papers shall be immediately forwarded.

Philadelphia, April 3, 1775.

Messrs. STORY and HUMPHREYS,

IF you think the inclosed juvenile Production has merit enough to fill a corner of your entertaining Paper, by inserting it you will oblige your constant Reader and Well-wisher. B------;

## THOUGHTS on FRIENDSHIP.

*Nil ego contulerim jucundo sanus amico.* HOR.

FRIENDSHIP is a disinterested affection that one bears to another, founded on esteem, and confirmed by judgment and length of time: It being the source of all kind offices, they are brought forth without pain, and we are pleased in lavishing them; yet, kind offices alone are not productive of Friendship, they only sometimes occasion it.

We cannot always rank relations with friends; they being related to us by necessary ties, which command not the affections of the heart: But friends are united by voluntary bonds, form'd by mutual sympathy, and a free choice.----'Tis this conciliates friends; but nature gives relations.

What high! What noble ideas had the heathen philosophers of the duties relative to friendship, and benevolence, and how many later instances of disinterested affection, do we find, even naturally subsisting among the poor uninform'd Negroes! Blush! then, ye professed followers of our Lord, who are blessed with the light of a gospel revelation. Where is your pretended attachment to its noble precepts? Do they not repeatedly enjoin us to have a peculiar esteem, and regard for all professing christians? Yet alas! What amazing coldness and indifference: while jarring principles continue to make divisions in the church, we see the hearts of their members apparently sway'd by envy, pride, and (we name it with horror) frequently deep and deliberate malice.

Tho' we cannot contract the most intimate friendship with a whole church community, yet how desirous should we be to place our confidence, where religious controversy cannot be a precedent to indifference: from this similarity in the disposition, tenderness of affection and sympathy of soul, a union takes place which affords the most sublime, and extensive views of friendship inseparably connected with christianity.

As man has two parts, a soul and a body,---So friendship has two likewise, the SENTIMENT, and the EXTERNAL SIGNS, by which it is demonstrated.

The first rule in friendship is not to love without examination: the second is never to choose friends among any but HONEST, SOCIAL, and VIRTUOUS men.

CONFIDENCE and BENEVOLENCE are inseparable appendages to a real and sincere friendship.---CONFIDENCE produces two effects--- one is a perfect security and reliance in regard to the prudence, integrity and affection of the person esteemed; the other is, it banishes all injurious suspicions.

Another effect that arises from confidence, is a communication between friends of the intimate sentiments, thoughts, and in fine, any thing that any way interests either of them. Nothing should be kept concealed from a friend but another friend's secret,---for what we cannot trust any other with, without indiscretion, we may and ought to deposit in his bosom; he has a right to know our heart, to reveal our faults, which will not be imprudence, but demonstrate his affection, friendship and regard. To tell him any good qualities we possess will not be vanity,---it is rather an effusion of heart than vanity. Finally, to converse with a friend is almost the same thing as to reflect or converse with one's self.

As for the benevolence friendship inspires, it produces INDULGENCE, and KIND-OFFICES.

1st. Indulgence: Friendship ought to be offended with nothing but what is injurious. We must overlook those faults wherein the heart and intention have no share, a slight mistake, a piece of forgetfulness or negligence; in short, all but such as shew the real affection he had for you is effaced. To break with a friend, to betray, or insult him, are the only crimes in friendship which cannot be forgiven;---but we must not have or desire to take revenge of a perfidious friend----if we deprive him of our intimacy, the sting of remorse may afterwards (on reflection) peirce his perfidious soul, and be the means of regulating his future conduct.

2d. Kind-offices: One may oblige a friend so many ways, that some of them are always practicable; and as kind offices demonstrate love in friendship, we ought to take all opportunities of serving a friend,---study his necessities, and how to prevent them before he feels them: in return, he will also prevent our expectations. Both heart and purse should be open; there is no case wherein either one or the other should be denied, because we run no risk, by entrusting a friend we have deliberately chosen, being certain he will make a proper and discreet use of them. What a noble contention! What a glorious jealousy is that of friends who envy the other the occasion of obliging! To receive is flattering, but to give is more so:---And to give a friend a strong, and at the same time, uncommon proof of friendship, is to be sincere in all our discourses; and the advice we give him, the remonstrances we make him, should be a faithful image of our thoughts and sentiments.

Thus I have considered friendship, but alas! when we view the generality of mankind, how few are worthy the appellation of a friend, how have they abused that amiable quality which is the principal promoter of society. Did we but consider the benefits arising from this (and all other virtues) what tranquillity might the mind enjoy while undisturb'd by hatred, malice, or envy; but friendship is seldom sincere when accompanied by vice: among the numerous forms which false professions wear, we shall endeavour to unmask two of the most occurrent.

1st. The youth of pleasure, who make none their companions, but those who follow the same vicious manner of life. While they have credit in the world, with what seeming friendship, love, and gratitude are they address'd; but when fortune declines, when folly and the extravagance of false friends consume money and credit, in vain may he seek for relief, they are then deaf to all his necessities, all his application, and at last entirely forsake him.

2d. Though real friendship should certainly subsist where a conjugal state takes place, as its duties are absolutely necessary to constitute their felicity, yet never was friendship more abused than between persons of different sexes, while unsettled in the world: We do not mean to contemn their kind offices, respect, or esteem, but only the character of the prude, and coquette, of which the former is by far the most justifiable: To unveil these engaging, though false friends, I shall only give two short instances, collected from a little essay

Humbly address'd to ev'ry prude,
Whose looks, tho' shy, are understood.

A friend of mine (says our author) had held a correspondence with a young lady for upwards of two years, under the name of friendship and esteem, although love was certainly understood, though on her side never properly express'd; an offer being made to her by another of much superior rank and fortune, she consulted with her friend by letter, whether she should accept of it; he made her no answer; but packing up all her letters in his possession, he returned them to her in a blank cover, by way of reproof: this packet express'd his indignation more emphatically than any thing he could have wrote; and the lady was candid enough to confess her affection for him, and acknowledged, that by her conduct she had merited his contempt;---here is prudish friendship; but now let us hear what he says of the coquette;---the other instance says he, was far less justifiable, and deserv'd the severest rebuke. I learn'd it from another friend of mine; he said, he was once connected with a lady, who, not only continued his profess'd friend for a long time, but afterwards confess'd a passion for him, and gave a promise of marriage, with the consent of all her friends, but suddenly broke off without giving any reason for her inconstancy. Such behaviour in a man, after possessing himself of a woman's affections, would be pronounced to be infamous, base, dishonourable, inconstant, and unjust: but in a woman, we only give it the gentle appellation of coquettry, through complaisance to the ficklenes of her sex. My friend, continues our author, had a better opinion of the lady, than at first to imagine she could be seriously forsaking him; he flattered himself, for some time, that she only intended to try his temper; but on her afterwards repeatedly refusing to account for her change, he gave up his pursuit, pocketed the affront, and peaceably submitted to his fate. It was, in fact, of small importance to him whether she had jilted him for another, or deserted him from the mean opinion she had conceived of his honour or sincerity. Be that as it may, the lady would, by her precipitation alone, have lost the heart of a man of any pride; at least, the opinion I have of the fulsomeness of professions of love from a person beheld with contempt, would have prevented me from renewing my addresses to her; and I should have been lost for ever, unless she had submitted to give me such encouragement as I could not have misunderstood. I doubt if ever I should have thought her serious again, till the Parson had join'd our hands in wedlock.

We should be careful to avoid this inconsistent sort of Friendship; when a man, however, has been so imprudent as to suffer himself to be engaged by such a woman, the best advice I can give him (be she a prude, a coquette, a flirt or a jilt) is to fly her sight, and endeavour entirely to forget her.

But to conclude, let us consider the happy situation of the man, who chuses a few select friends and makes them his advisers; WHERE NO PERSONAL INTEREST IS DISCOVERED, ADVICE IS ALWAYS RECEIVED WITH GRATITUDE, by which means we discover our own frailties, which consequently places it in our power to correct them. AMICUS.

## DR. HILL'S AMERICAN BALSAM,

Of which the virtue and goodness are now so well known in America:

IT is an infallible, innocent, sure and effectual medicine as ever was known in the world for all coughs, colds, swimming in the head, and a very admirable remedy for children in the whooping cough and in most all their disorders. By the proper use of this balsam, for a reasonable time, many have received great benefit and relief, and some are effectually cured of the most painful rheumatism, cholic, consumption, &c. &c. Dr. Hill's own direction is wrapped about each bottle, and to prevent counterfeiting, this medicine is only to be sold in Philadelphia by William Sitgreaves, merchant, on the north side of Market-Street, near the Court-house; at Germantown, by Christopher Sower, printer; at Lancaster by Ludwig Lauman, merchant; in New-York, by Michael Hoffman, shop-keeper; and by the subscriber at his place, in Kingsess.

WILLIAM YOUNG.

N. B. At the same places are also sold, Dr. Hill's new improved Stomachic Tincture Excellence for all weak stomachs: it gives a good healthy appetite and sound digestion, and prevents many diseases. ¶

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